

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY ROME

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FOLLOWING REPEAT GENEVA 09232 ACTIONSECSTATE AND USUN NEW YORK
DATED JUNE 19, 1978.

QUOTE: UNCLAS GENEVA 09232

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNDP EAID

SUBJECT: 25TH UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL: STATEMENT
BY ADMINISTRATOR

1. THE OPENING STATEMENT BY UNDP ADMINISTRATOR BRADFORD MORSE IS NOT ONLY A REVIEW OF THE ORGANIZATION'S ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OVER THE PAST YEAR BUT ALSO AN INDICATION OF DIRECTIONS WHICH WILL BE FOLLOWED IN THE FUTURE AS WELL AS OF PROBLEMS OF WHICH THE COUNCIL SHOULD BE AWARE. THIS YEAR'S STATEMENT (THE COUNCIL NOW MEETS IN FULL SESSION ANNUALLY) CONTAINS NO SURPRISES AND SETS FORTH NO SIGNIFICANT PROBLEMS. THE FULL TEXT IS BEING TRANSMITTED SEPARATELY. GIVEN BELOW ARE THE HIGHLIGHTS OF MORSE'S ORAL REPORT AS PRESENTED.

2. A. FISCAL CONTROL - SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TOTALLING \$1.2 MILLION WILL FUND A MAJOR INTEGRATED SYSTEMS IMPROVE-
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MENT PROJECT TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY AND SPEED THE FLOW OF PROGRAMME AND FINANCIAL DATA TO HELP OBVIATE ANY RECURRANCE OF THE 1975-76 LIQUIDITY CRISIS.

B. PROGRAMME DELIVERY - EXPENDITURES FOR 1978 INCREASED TO ABOUT \$380 MILLION AND ARE PROJECTED AT \$490 FOR 1979.

C. COST-SHARING - THE OVERALL RATIO OF COSTS BORNE BY LDC'S FOR UNDP-FINANCED PROJECTS ROSE FROM 50PCT TO 60PCT.

D. NON-CONVERTIBLE CURRENCIES - THE USSR HAS AGREED TO AN "EXCHANGE OF UP TO 5 MILLION ACCUMULATED RUBLES." SOON ALL SOVIET EXPERTS WILL RECEIVE 25PCT OF THEIR SALARIES IN RUBLES. FULL TRAVEL COSTS FOR ALL EXPERTS AND FELLOWS FLYING AEROFLOT TO AND FROM THE USSR WILL HENCEFORTH BE PAID IN RUBLES (INSTEAD OF 50PCT AS HERETOFORE).

E. CONFIDENCE IN UNDP-FULL PROGRAMMING OF IPF RESOURCES INDICATES RENEWED CONFIDENCE THAT UNDP CAN DELIVER.

F. UNCDF - TO REMOVE INHIBITIONS ON GROWTH OF THE CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT FUND, AN INCREASE OF TOTAL RESOURCES FROM \$67 MILLION TO \$100 MILLION IS BEING SOUGHT.

G. UNV - UN VOLUNTEERS NOW NUMBER 340 IN 56 COUNTRIES. TOTAL IS EXPECTED TO RISE TO 400 BY END OF 1978 AND MAY REACH 500 A YEAR LATER.

H. UNSO - WITH COUNCIL CONCURRENCE, SAHELIAN OFFICE WOULD EXPAND AND UNDERTAKE A JOINT UNEP/UNDP VENTURE IN 15 COUNTRIES SOUTH OF THE SAHARA AND NORTH OF THE EQUATOR.
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I. UNDP STAFFING - TOTAL OF MAIN PROGRAM STAFF DROPPED IN 1977 FROM PREVIOUS YEAR. TWENTY-ONE WOMEN PROFESSIONALS WERE RECRUITED IN 1977, AN ADDITIONAL 25-30 EXPECTED IN 1978.

J. COORDINATION - A SMALL INTER-AGENCY UNIT AT UNDP HEADQUARTERS NOW COORDINATES SUPPLY PURCHASES ON A MORE COST-EFFICIENT BASIS.

K. TCDC - APPOINTMENT OF UNCTAD DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL BERNARD CHIDZERO TO SERVE AS TCDC CONFERENCE DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL REPLACING ABDEL-MEGUID ANNOUNCED. (SEE SEPARATE MESSAGE ON BOURNE/CHIDZERO MEETING).

L. RESTRUCTURING - ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE ON COORDINATION RECOMMENDS AND UNDP AGREES THAT RESIDENT REPRESENTATIVE BE THE "SINGLE OFFICIAL" PROVIDING UN TEAM LEADERSHIP AT THE COUNTRY LEVEL.

M. RESOURCES - FAILURE TO ACHIEVE 14PCT GROWTH IN 1977

RENDERS RESULTS "FAR LESS THAN SATISFACTORY" FOR FIRST TWO YEARS OF CURRENT CYCLE. BY END OF 1981, UNDP MUST COLLECT \$275 MILLION MORE IN FRESH CONTRIBUTIONS THAN EXPECTED IN 1978. THIS WOULD RESULT IN EXTRA-ORDINARY EFFORTS BY MAJOR DDNORS AND IN EFFORT TO EXPAND NUMBER OF COUNTRIES IN THAT GROUP. MULTI-YEAR PLEDGING COULD PROVIDE STABLE BASIS FOR LONGER-TERM FINANCING.

N. UNDP CAPACITY - OVER PAST 25 YEARS, NEARLY \$2 TRILLION INVESTED IN WORLDWIDE DEVELOPMENT EFFORT OF WHICH UNDP'S SHARE WAS MODEST \$4.1 BILLION. UNDP NOW HAS THE CAPACITY FOR A FAR GREATER CONTRIBUTION AND IMPACT.

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3. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH ENDING HIS PRESENTATION WITH THE EXHORTATION FOR ALL GOVERNMENTS TO USE THE UNDP AND "TO EXPLOIT ITS CAPABILITIES TO THE UTMOST", ADMINISTRATOR MORSE CONVEYED GREATER CONFIDENCE IN THE PERFORMANCE OF UNDP AND IN THE DIRECTION IT IS TAKING THAN WAS EVIDENT PRIOR TO LAST YEAR'S DEBATE ON THE ROLE AND FUTURE DIRECTION OF THE PROGRAMME. PROBLEMS CONTINUE TO EXIST IN THE AREAS OF COORDINATION, RESOURCE COLLECTION AND LIQUIDITY AND PROGRAM PRIORITIES AND DELIVERY. HOWEVER, UNDP GIVES THE IMPRESSION OF AN AGENCY WITH A GRASP OF ITS MISSION AND A FIRMER UNDERSTANDING OF APPROPRIATE DIRECTIONS AND MODALITIES. VANDEN HEUVEL
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